

Wilmington June 21st 1888
My dear Dr. Watson.

I am now
so little occupied in collecting and
examining the plants of our Eastern
border that I do not remember
(off hand so to speak) of anything to
communicate which would serve you
in a new edition of the "Manual";
but there is one thing which you
would do if you lived nearer the
border line of the Manual district.
~~Dr. Gray~~ Dr. Gray once wrote when I sent
him a number of southern species
growing in this state "I see I might
as well swallow Chapman". This is
now what you ought to do. Potentially
our country divides best into districts
running from North to South. It would

no add too much to your book to
take in the extra plants of Chapman's
district - and that district should com-
prise all U.S. territory east of the
Mississippi river. There then should
be another "Manual" district of the
"Texas" flora, ^{including most of Texas.} We already have a-
nother of the Rocky Mt. district in
Cotters' Manual which, for the
present, should be extended to the
Mexican line. The "Botany of California",
which must soon be revised and put
in Manual form, is the fourth. Essen-
tially it may be well to have a
Northern Mexican and Southern U.S. di-
vision but it is not necessary now.

If you know what a bother it
is for border collectors to have to
buy both the "Manual" and "Chapman"
around with ^{one} ~~you~~ you would have pity
~~for~~ us. So think of this. The

flora and with course "North and South"
has vastly increased within the last
ten years and it is only the beginning
of a much greater increase. Northern
Capital is going south and we shall have
more botanists there soon who will join
in the prayer for one book for this
district instead of two.

Excuse the liberty I have taken
and believe me

Yours sincerely

Wm. M. Aubrey

Of course if I note any information
worth sending I will forward it.